

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, September 5, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Beinn Bhreagh, Victoria County, Cape Breton, N.S. Monday, September 5, (1904) My darling Alec:

I have been growing more and more thankful that you went to Washington and of your own accord without urging from me. While I have no doubt that to a certain extent advantage has been taken of your love for Mamma yet on the other hand it remains the fact that she was being left to bear the brunt of the entertainment of the Congress alone, or at least that she was feeling so. This is certainly too much for her and your place is undoubtedly beside her to lift the burden from her. With you beside her she can go on and do her share without too much worry, without the moral support of your presence she might have broken down. Anyway it would have been a terrible strain and given her a feeling of loneliness and desertion which would have brought back all the grief of her first days of widowhood. I cannot imagine anything more heart-breaking and pathetic than her position would have been, left alone, a widow deserted by all her children, struggling to maintain her husband's honor, the only one to entertain the great crowd from all parts of the world.

I echo the words of Mamma's telegram. With all my heart I thank you. I, your wife, know the sacrifice you have made, it is so great I could not urge you when it came to the point. But from my heart I thank you. I do not think you can ever again give me such a thoroughly satisfying proof of your goodness, for no one can appeal so to my heart as my mother does, she to whom I and you owe so much.

Your father is splendidly well. He went for a long mountain drive and seems not at all tired.

I think you changed your mind at the last moment and wished I had been with you on the boat, but it was too late then.

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I saw Ferguson in town and gave him your message regarding plans and estimates.

Your loving wife.

3

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